



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
District of New Hampshire*

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**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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**MAN SENTENCED FOR IDENTITY THEFT CRIMES**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE** – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono reports that a man identifying himself as Pedro Vasquez Cruz, formerly of 285 Concord Street, Manchester, NH, was sentenced in U. S. District Court in Concord to 24 months in prison, following his earlier conviction on a four-count federal indictment for identity theft.

The sentence was imposed by U.S. District Judge Steven J. McAuliffe following Cruz's July 6, 2004 plea of guilty to a charge filed in U.S. District Court and a pre-sentence investigation by the Court.

The conviction and sentence are the result of the defendant admitting he made an application in November of 2002 for a U.S. Passport using the name "Jose Ramon Quinones." The defendant admitted using a birth certificate in that name, and a social security number corresponding to that name, all of which belonged to another man who died in 1983.

Cruz was apprehended as a result of his activities being brought to the attention of the Identity Theft and Fraud Working Group organized in the U.S. Attorney's Office, which brings together both federal and state law enforcement agencies to combat identity theft and fraud. An intensive and coordinated investigation by agents of the Social Security Administration, the U.S. State Department's Diplomatic Security Service and the Manchester, N.H. Police Department ensued.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono commended the U.S. Social Security Administration's Office of Inspector General, the U.S. State Department's Diplomatic Security Service and the Manchester, N.H. Police Department for what he termed the "extremely dedicated and competent" handling of the investigation, and said it is an excellent example of the partnership between federal and state law enforcement. Assistant U. S. Attorney Alfred Rubega prosecuted this case.